

SOME NEW AFRICAN *ANTHRIBIDAE*.

BY KARL JORDAN, Ph.D.

1. *Mecocerus hauseri* spec. nov.

♀. Nearest to *rhombens* (1886) Qued. ; rostrum rather thicker, eyes a little wider apart, elytra shorter, and pattern different. Tenth segment of antenna nearly as long as eleventh. The following grey lines on upperside : a vitta from base of rostrum across head and thorax to apex of elytra, very narrow on elytra, except at base ; another line on prothorax nearly as in *rhombens*, but less oblique ; between this and middle line, but closer to the former, a thin short line behind prothoracical carina ; the sutural vitta of the elytra complete ; from it branches off at basal sixth an oblique line which joins laterally another oblique line as in *rhombens*, this second line being more curved than in *rhombens* ; the lateral portion of the two fused lines more transverse in *hauseri* than in *rhombens*, forming an angle with the second line in *hauseri* ; this second line bears in the sixth interspace a short projection, which is the remnant of a line of which further traces are visible between this projection and the outer margin ; a curved line runs from the scutellum across the base of the wing to the outer margin, which it reaches at basal fifth ; lateral edge of wing from this line to apex grey. The three lines of the elytrum meet at the apical angle of the metasternum and are continued as one line along its hinder edge. A streak above anterior coxa, another before midcoxa, a band covering the mesosternal epimerum and continued over the metasternum (where the band is broken), and some small dots on abdomen grey.

Length, 11 mm.

*Hab.* Togo, West Africa.

1 ♀ ; received from Prof. Dr. Hauser, Erlangen.

*Blaberops* gen. nov.

♂♀. Similar to *Blaberus*. Antenna of ♂ from two to four times as long as the body, first segment short, thick, second about twice as long as broad, 3 to 9 very long, 10 and 11 about the same length, each about twice as long as 1 + 2, 11 acuminate, with some bristles at the tip ; of ♀ not quite half the length of the body, segment 3 a little longer than 2, shorter than 4 = 5, 7 longer than 6 and nearly twice the length of 8, club as long as 5 to 8, broad, 9 triangular, longer than broad, 10 a little broader than long, rounded-triangular, 11 a little longer than broad, ovate, subtruncate at base. Eye larger and deeper sinuate than in *Blaberus*. Carina of pronotum antebasal, broadly and rather deeply concave in middle, more or less flexed forward at side, angle rounded ; subbasal carina vestigial at side, no basal longitudinal carina. Forecoxae contiguous. Mesosternal process narrow, triangular, rounded at end. Tarsi long, first hindtarsal segment one-fourth shorter than tibia ; foretibia not mucronate, foretarsus not woolly beneath, as is the case in *Blaberus*.

Type : *B. macrocerus* spec. nov.

2. *Blaberops macrocerus* spec. nov.

♂ ♀. Black; antenna (except club), femora and tibiae rufescent or rufous; underside pubescent grey; upperside grey, variegated with brown. Upper edge of antennal groove elevate in ♂. Prothorax as long as broad, widest in middle, the sides being rounded, densely punctate-reticulate. Elytra less abruptly declivous behind than in *Blaberus fallax*, regularly and distinctly punctate-striate. Pygidium longer than broad in ♂, slightly truncate, in ♀ a little shorter than broad, rounded.

Length, 3 to 4 mm.

*Hab.* Magila, Usambara, 2. vi. 1898 (Legros), *type*; Amagaya, Zululand.

5 ♂♂, 1 ♀.

3. *Anthribus planatus* spec. nov.

♂. Rufescent brown, covered with an olivaceous and a clayish pubescence; a triangular lateral patch on elytrum beginning at shoulder angle and extending to the third interspace, which it reaches before middle, and a transverse band across both elytra before apical declivity, olivaceous, rather indistinct, except in certain lights.

Carina of rostrum prominent. Antenna longer than the body (♂), segments 3 to 5 rather strongly incrassate at apex, and hardly longer than broad. Prothorax longer than broad, rounded at the sides, widest just behind middle, not punctured. Elytra rather flat above, strongly punctate, striate, without tufts, one large tubercle before apex extending from stripe 3 to 8. No punctures on underside. First abdominal segment with a large rounded patch of a clayish ochraceous pubescence.

Length, 14 mm.

*Hab.* Gold Coast.

1 ♂.

*Euphloeobius* gen. nov.

♂ ♀. Similar to *Phloeobius*. Antennal groove large, triangular, close to eye, covered, its upper edge being cariniform. Eye sinuate, larger than in *Phloeobius*, twice as long as broad in dorsal aspect, its upper lobe projecting forward over the hinder edge of the antennal groove. Rostrum and false mentum sinuate. Antenna short, not reaching base of prothorax, segment 2 longer than 3, somewhat pyriform, 3 longer than 4, 8 rather thicker than 7, club compact, short, triarticulate, segment 9 hardly longer than apically broad, 10 twice as broad as long.

Carina of pronotum basal, not extending to middle of sides, angle acute. Second segment of tarsi less triangular and third much smaller than in *Phloeobius*.

Type: *E. asellus* spec. nov.

4. *Euphloeobius asellus* spec. nov.

♂ ♀. Brown-black, densely covered with a greyish white pubescence; pronotum, except a large anterior median area and declivous portion of base of elytra cinnamon, mottled with black; elytra more or less faintly tessellated with black and brown, each with or without a black sharply defined spot on disc behind middle; antenna rufescent, club brown-black.

Rostrum more than twice as broad as long, flat, impressed laterally before the eye.

Frons with a short carina. Prothorax twice as broad at base as at apex, with two longitudinal depressions on disc, subcarinate mesially, sinuate at side

before hinder angle; lateral carina stopping at basal third. Elytra cylindrical, half as long again as broad, depressed at basal margin; the rows of punctures not distinct distally; second and third interspace raised behind basal depression; these slight tubercles black. Spine-like bristles at apex of hindtibia and first hindtarsal segment rather long and strong.

Length,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

*Hab.* Ikutha, British East Africa; received from Prof. Dr. Hauser.

In one of the three specimens I have seen there is a black oblique dash behind the middle of each elytrum (*type*), in a second there is a rounded black patch, while the third individual is devoid of that mark.

##### 5. *Epitaphius lunatus* spec. nov.

Brown-black, covered with a greyish white pubescence; legs rufescent; segments 5 and 6 of antenna and club black, rest white; sides of pronotum and elytra somewhat clayish; pronotum with three abbreviated, not sharply marked, black lateral vittae; scutellum white; elytrum with an oblique clayish patch at base; alternate interstices faintly clayish, the white ones tessellated with black, the black marks in interspaces 3 and 5 long and few in number; an oblong subapical area common to both elytra encircled by a black line which begins in the middle of the suture and gradually fades away posteriorly; shoulder black below. First tarsal segment greyish white, black at extreme base, the others black; tibiae with a brown spot at base.

Rostrum twice as broad as long. Segments 3 to 6 of antenna gradually decreasing in length, 7 a very little longer than 6, 9 as long as 3, 10 half as broad again as long. Prothorax convex, rather strongly impressed before base, the impression divided; carina evenly curved from side to side, not angulate, not reaching to middle of sides. Elytra cylindrical, evenly and rather feebly striate; base depressed. Pygidium broader than long. First forefarsal segment nearly as long as the other three segments together.

Length, 6 mm.; breadth,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

*Hab.* Ikutha, British East Africa.

Two specimens, received from Prof. Dr. Hauser.

##### 6. *Phloeobius lineifer* spec. nov.

♀. Black, densely covered with a luteous grey pubescence; antenna brown-black; tibiae and tarsi brown-black, irregularly ringed with grey; pronotum with two indistinct brown stripes laterally; scutellum and alternate interspaces of elytra whitish grey, first, third and ninth tessellated with black, third from base to middle and fifth from middle to apical declivity quite black.

Rostrum and frons without groove and carina. Antenna short, hardly reaching base of prothorax, segment 2 short, scarcely half as long again as broad, 3 nearly twice the length of 2, only a little longer than 4, shorter than 9, 8 a little longer and broader than 7, 9 asymmetrical, subtruncate at base, here as wide as at apex, 10 also subtruncate at base, 11 longer than broad. Prothorax about one-third broader than long, slightly sinuate laterally before base, narrowed from before middle to apex, with the apical angle projecting, the sides being carinate in front; this frontal carina not continuous with the lateral branch of the basal carina; hinder angle a little over  $90^\circ$ ; disc convex in front, feebly depressed behind; anterior edge of pronotum somewhat curving forwards, the prothorax being about

one-fourth longer in middle than at the sides. Elytra cylindrical, slightly raised behind base, but here not tuberculated; third, fifth and ninth interspaces feebly cariniform.

Length,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; breadth,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  mm.

*Hab.* Mulango, Kitui, British East Africa.

1 ♀, received from Prof. Dr. Hanser.

#### 7. *Phloeobius striga* spec. nov.

♂. Brown-black, shaft of antenna and tibiae rufescent; pubescence lutescent grey; the mesial line, an indistinct lateral discal vitta and sides of pronotum clay-colour, alternate interspaces of elytra also clayish; two dots on pronotum, situated before middle, and scutellum white; frons also whitish; a sharply defined linear spot on the suture before the apex of the elytra deep black; tibiae with vestiges of three brown rings; anterior tarsus brown-black.

Rostrum three times as broad as long, slightly depressed; no longitudinal carina either on rostrum or frons. Antenna reaching base of elytra; segment 3 shorter than 4, but a little longer than 5, 8 as long as 7, 9 and 10 symmetrical, 11 longer than 9. Prothorax nearly as broad at apex as at base, being broader just behind the apical edge than the head inclusive of eyes, faintly depressed transversely above behind the apex and before the base, densely punctate-granulate, hinder angle slightly obtuse, being more than  $90^\circ$ . Elytra cylindrical, alternate interspaces slightly elevate, with small raised spots of black and white pubescence, these spots most distinct in apical third; declivous apex slightly flattened.

Length,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

*Hab.* Ikutha, British East Africa.

2 ♂♂, received from Prof. Dr. Hanser.

#### 8. *Phloeobius pachymerus* spec. nov.

♂. Brown-black; shaft of antenna rufescent; head, an irregular elongate patch behind the base of each elytrum, apex of elytra (this area sinuate anteriorly at suture), pygidium and sides of breast white; pronotum clayish, mottled with white, with a black central dot of longer pubescence; interspaces 2, 4 and 6 of elytrum distinctly clayish, 1, 3 and 5 grey and tessellated with brown or black, 3 and 5 with three respectively two black raised tufts in apical half, two similar tufts near base in first and third interspaces; lateral edge tessellated with brown; tibiae with three brown spots or incomplete rings.

Rostrum very short, without carina. Antenna reaching base of prothorax, segment 3 asymmetrical, elongate-pear-shaped, 4 and 5 much enlarged, compressed, asymmetrical, little longer than broad, 6 and 7 smaller, but also produced forward, 8 small, not enlarged, 9 triangular, asymmetrical like 10, a little longer than apically broad. Prothorax narrower at apex than at base, but apical angles projecting, the width of the prothorax being here equal to that of the head inclusive of eyes; sides sinuate before hinder angle; the latter acute, with the extreme tip rounded off. Elytra slightly elevate behind base.

Length,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm.; breadth,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

*Hab.* Ikutha, British East Africa.

2 ♂♂, received from Prof. Dr. Hanser.

The antenna is unlike that of any other species hitherto described.